

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 93-750-C - ORDER NO. 94-81  
JANUARY 20, 1994

IN RE:	Request of Pond Branch Telephone Company for approval of Optional Extended Area Calling Plan.	) ORDER DENYING ) REQUEST TO ) RESCHEDULE HEARING
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This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) by way of the January 14, 1994, letter of the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina (the Consumer Advocate) in which the Consumer Advocate requested that the hearing in this matter be rescheduled.

The hearing in this matter is scheduled for Monday, February 7, 1994. In the request to reschedule the hearing, the Consumer Advocate states that the witness which the Consumer Advocate intends to present at the hearing has a conflict on Mondays and Wednesdays which would make it difficult for the witness to attend the hearing on February 7, 1994.

By way of response to the Consumer Advocate's request, Pond Branch Telephone Company (the Applicant) filed a letter with the Commission. Pond Branch states that it has informed its customers of the scheduled hearing date and that further information regarding the hearing has been disseminated to interested parties by an article which appeared in The State newspaper. Pond Branch is concerned of the difficulty of informing all interested parties

of a change in hearing dates.

The Commission has considered this matter and holds that the Consumer Advocate's Request to Reschedule the hearing must be denied. The Commission recognizes the difficulty and confusion which could result in rescheduling the hearing. However, the Commission will allow the hearing on February 7, 1994, to be recessed until a later date when the Commission will hear testimony regarding the Rate of Return issue in this matter. The Commission will not schedule a date for the conclusion of the hearing but will instruct the Commission Staff to set the conclusion of the hearing for some date after February 21, 1994.

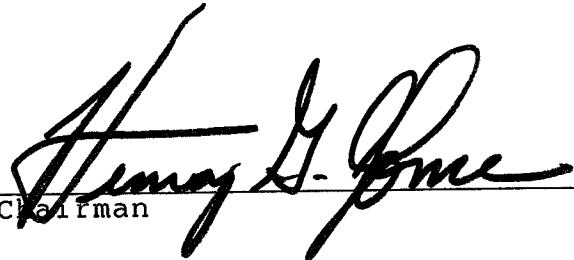
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The request of the Consumer Advocate to reschedule the hearing in this matter is denied.

2. The hearing on February 7, 1994, will be recessed until a date after February 21, 1994, at which time the Commission will hear the testimony regarding the Rate of Return issue in this matter.

3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

(SEAL)